THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Do not arise in view of (a) above.

**Allotment of Petrol Pumps in Himachal Pradesh**

†1504. SHRI SURESH BHARDWAJ: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the norms adopted by the public sector oil companies to allot their petrol pumps and gas agencies; and

(b) the total number of petrol pumps allotted by these oil companies in Himachal Pradesh from July, 2004 to January, 2005 alongwith the details of allottees?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Based on certain broad parameters advised by the Government to the public sector oil marketing companies (OMCs), the latter have framed their guidelines for the selection of retail outlet dealerships (petrol pumps) LPG distributorships (gas agencies) and SKO-LDO dealerships, and have been making selections and allotments in terms of these guidelines. These guidelines provide for a detailed procedure to be followed by the OMCs in making selection and allotment of dealers/ distributors. The procedure includes selection of dealers/distributors by the selection committee of the OMC concerned on the basis of an evaluation of the suitability of the candidates *vis-a-vis* certain laid down parameters and weightages.

(b) The four OMCs, *viz*, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and IBP Co. Limited have allotted a total of 80 retail outlet dealerships in the State of Himachal Pradesh during the period July, 2004 to January, 2005. The details of the allottees are available with the Director (Marketing) of the companies concerned.

**Price of Imported Crude Oil**

†1505. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.